

students and their needs. As the college has grown, it has remained motivated by the perspective of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who have given much to our Nation through their devotion to people and to their faith.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the entire Marywood College family as we observe these landmark anniversaries.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOUNG
ISRAEL OF SHARON, MA

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 1995

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that on Saturday, March 25, I will have the honor of attending the 1995 dinner of the Young Israel of Sharon Synagogue. The theme of this dinner, acknowledging 23 years of the synagogue's existence, is community service and leadership. Since that is the theme that many of us in Washington are trying to stress, I am especially pleased to attend an event in which people have been exemplifying this spirit in their own community.

The dinner will honor Eleanor Herburger, a vital and important citizen of Sharon who will be presented with a Shachain Tov—Good Neighbor—Award for her varied and valued community service. Rabbi Meir Sender and his congregation have a great deal of which to be proud. I am pleased to be able to call attention here to their excellent work, and the model they present to so many others, and I am honored that I will have a chance to be with them to mark this great occasion.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI EPHRAIM H.
STURM

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, one of the pleasures of serving in this legislative body is the opportunity we occasionally get to acknowledge publicly outstanding citizens of our Nation. I rise today to honor Rabbi Ephraim H. Sturm, a truly remarkable individual.

In 1948, he joined the staff of the National Council of Young Israel, a modern Orthodox synagogue group with branches across the United States. In his over 40 years with Young Israel, he was directly or indirectly involved in the expansion of the movement from 31 synagogues to almost 200, with an additional 50 synagogues in the State of Israel, 4 in Canada, and 1 in Holland.

On a nonsectarian level, he was project director for 22 years as an on-the-job training program of the U.S. Department of Labor. As project director he negotiated and executed over \$10 million in Government contracts in New York City and across America. His record of achievement and fiscal responsibility stands as an inspiration to us all.

Rabbi Sturm has served as a trustee and member of the executive board of the Memo-

rial Conference and Jewish culture representing Young Israel at the various meetings and conferences in Europe. In Israel he was one of the founders of the World Conference of Orthodox Jewish Synagogues and Kehilot which then became a member in the World Zionist Organization. At the last Zionist Congress in Jerusalem he had the prestigious position of chairing the plenary session on demography.

Apart from serving for over 15 years as chaplain in the New York State Guard, he served on the New York City Manpower Commission, the New York State Advisory Council on Human Rights, the New York State Advisory Council on Kosher Law Enforcement, the New York State Advisory Council on Consumer Protection, and the New York State Task Force on Problems of the Hasidic Community. Recently, he was appointed to the New York State Advisory Board on Government Contracts to Nonprofit Agencies.

Upon retirement after 50 years of service to the community, this indomitable personality embarked upon a new career of lecturer and chaplain at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, consultant to a health care facility and assistant to the president in a venture involving labor unions and health care.

Rabbi Sturm received over 40 awards and citations from various national and international organizations as well as Government agencies. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in commending Rabbi Sturm for his tireless work.

THE HEBREW ISRAELITE
COMMUNITY IN ISRAEL

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, for 25 years, the Hebrew Israelite Community, a group of about 1,500 African-Americans, has lived in the Israeli desert cities of Dimona and Arad. Despite racial, linguistic, religious, and cultural differences from Israeli society, the Hebrew Israelite Community has successfully adapted to their desert environment, developing innovative approaches to agriculture, community industries, and health care. The leaders of the community feel that some of their innovative approaches to agriculture and community industries have broader application potential in the developing world, especially Africa.

Initially skeptical or hostile, Israelis in Dimona and Arad have come to view the Hebrew Israelites as part of their society. Last year, the Israeli Government granted the members of the Hebrew Israelite Community permanent resident status.

In recognition of the successful efforts by both the Hebrew Israelite Community and the Israeli Government to resolve their differences, I would like to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following brief article from the Chicago Sun-Times of December 12, 1994.

BLACK HEBREWS AT HOME IN ISRAEL

(By Jay Bushinsky)

DIMONA, ISRAEL.—By clinging to this dry desert landscape and blending their authentic American folklore with Israel's biblical heritage, the black Hebrews have become an

integral part of this country's human landscape.

More than two decades have elapsed since their latter-day equivalent of Joshua, charismatic Ben-Ami Carter, arrived in Israel by way of Liberia with the Hebrew Israelite Community's advance party.

Now its adherents are centered in Dimona and have fellow believers in nearby Arad and Mitzpe Ramon, two smaller development towns in the Negev desert. There is no comparing the controversy and tension generated by Carter's outspoken debut in Israel.

He declared at the time that his followers were the real descendants of the ancient Hebrews and termed the predominant Ashkenazic Jews imposters.

But the polemical phase of the black Hebrew saga is far behind the sedate, self-confident residents of this neat corner of largely North African city just up the road from the top-secret nuclear reactor which has become an international synonym for Dimona.

Carter made his peace with Israeli officialdom, placed his followers under its legal jurisdiction, put his educational facilities under government supervision and fostered cultural contact with the Israeli public through music, sports and the mass media.

The latest evidence that his policy gets the right results came when Israel's equivalent of social security, the National Security Institute, extended its coverage to his flock.

This means that the black Hebrews who live and work in Israel will be eligible for old-age pensions, disability compensation, childbirth subsidies and cash allowances for large families.

Last year, the ministry of the interior, which had refused to recognize the Hebrew Israelite Community's members as bonafide immigrants under the Law of the Return, granted them temporary residence permits and dropped its charges that they were illegal immigrants who had overstayed their entry visas and were candidates for deportation to the United States.

This move coincided with a U.S. grant of \$700,000 for the construction of a comprehensive public high school.

The new educational facility's classrooms are packed with students, all garbed in the navy blue uniforms ordained by their teachers, who insist on high standards of personal hygiene as well as immaculate dress.

Although the Hebrew language is taught and virtually all of the black Hebrews who were born here or are veteran residents can speak and understand, English remains the prevailing tongue.

One of the most impressive examples of linguistic adaptation was audible when a cluster of second-graders ambled along singing a popular Israeli folk song with the same glee as their contemporaries in Tel Aviv.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

HON. RICHARD J. DURBIN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 21, 1995

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the men and women of this country who work the land, process and refine our agricultural commodities, and engage in the research that keeps American farmers and ranchers the most efficient in the world. I rise to pay tribute to the U.S. agricultural community.

As we all know, 1995 is a year in which American agriculture and our national farm policy will be in the spotlight. With severe